

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1920

No. 51

Billy Sunday Christmas Tree

To Come to Wise County in June or July.

A meeting of representative citizens from all parts of Wise county was held at the Community Center last night and plans for the greatest revival ever attempted in this section were made.

Rev. J. M. Smith, G. D. Kilgore, H. E. Hyatt and Henry Gilmer were the committee selected at a previous meeting of pastors and laymen to invite 100 men to a supper at which time the idea of having Mr. Sunday was to be passed upon. A fine chicken supper was served by ladies from the M. E., Baptist and Presbyterian churches.

While the attendance was not as large as was expected the county was well represented and a unanimous call was extended the famous evangelist and his party to come to us. It will be remembered that Billy Sunday made a short visit to Wise county last summer at which time he visited some of the largest collieries and spoke to a large crowd at Big Stone Gap. Mr. Sunday expressed a willingness at the time to come back to Wise county for a meeting and the call which is extended him will beyond any doubt be accepted.

The time of the meeting has not been fully decided but will probably come some time in June or July next year. The place of meeting according to the unanimous vote of those present was Norton because of its central location and railroad facilities.

An executive committee composed of nine men from all sections of the county was appointed as follows:

Rev. J. M. Smith, chairman; Otis Mouser, of Big Stone Gap; M. D. Collier, Appalachia; C. P. McDonald, Norton; A. P. Bruce, Wise; C. O. Ramsey, Coburn; Lee Long, Dante; D. A. Patterson, Tom's Creek, and M. M. Long, of St. Paul. This committee will work out the necessary details of this great campaign against evil and with the cooperation of every good citizen will bring to pass the greatest wave of reform ever attempted in these parts.

Let every right thinking citizen in Wise county begin now to plan to do his part in making this great meeting a success.—Coalfield Progress.

Home From School for the Holidays.

The following boys and girls of the Gap, who are attending school at several of the various schools, colleges and universities this year have returned this week to their homes in the Gap to spend the holidays with homefolks: Miss Juliet Knight, of Martha Washington College, Abingdon; Reba and Anna Barron Collier, of Stonewall Jackson College, Abingdon; Bonnie Catron, Lucile and Irene Draper, of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg; Lucy Maury, of Beechwood, Jenkinstown, Pa.; Edith VanGorder, of Oxford College, Oxford, O.; Geraldine Guthrie and George Stacy, of Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tenn.; Helen McCormick, of Sargent, Cambridge, Mass.; Byron Rhoads, of Lehigh, Pa.; Dan and James Pierson, of Kentucky Military Institute, Louisville; William Goodloe, Carl Youell, DeWitt and Kenneth Wolfe, of V. P. L., Blacksburg; Gordon Goodloe, William Beverly and Edward Goodloe, of Georgia Tech; Clifford Smith, of Washington and Lee University; Sidney Mullins, of the University of Virginia.

To be Given by American Legion at Appalachia.

A special meeting of the Henry N. Tate Post of the American Legion at Appalachia was held Friday night, December 10th, and the following post officers were elected for the coming year:

Post Commander, W. B. Peters, Appalachia; vice commanders, C. A. Hood, East Stone Gap, Roscoe Woltz, Big Stone Gap, Fred Buchanan, Dunbar, Paul Horne, Roda; secretary, Sam F. Dickenson, Appalachia; treasurer, Festus Leon, Appalachia; post W. R. officer, George Morton, Appalachia; sergeant at arms, Oliver B. Burke, Appalachia.

Plans have been perfected and everything will be in readiness for the Christmas tree that is to be given by the post in their club room over Nickels Bros.' store in the Robinette building at Appalachia, on the afternoon of Christmas day for the little folks.

The present outlook for the future of the post is for the legion as a whole, very bright. Many new members have already been added for the coming year, and every old member is expected to renew, and do his part toward getting new ones. A membership drive started December 10th and will last until February, and the member getting the most new members will be awarded a gold legion button.

All former service men are asked to mail their dues to the secretary or treasurer and a membership card will be mailed to them. The post officers will be glad to assist any exservice man in filing a claim for compensation, renewing insurance, or in any difficulty he might have. You need not hesitate in asking any favors, it makes no difference if you are not a member.

HEREDITY, ENVIRONMENT—OR WHAT?

The good old topics for debate, resolved that fire has been more destructive than water, or that the pen is mightier than the sword, still serve for amateur debaters; but the most question of whether heredity or environment plays the stronger part in shaping man's destiny troubles many a serious minded grown-up, who would like to adopt a child but fears to on account of its inheritance of traits that may prove undesirable.

Is it safe to adopt a child about whom you know nothing, a child that may be the offspring of vicious and weak persons? Can you hope to neutralize the inheritance of such a child by placing it in favorable surroundings, giving it care and education and advantages?

Granted that the child is not feeble minded, say the majority of social workers, the chances that you will be able to bring the child to honorable manhood or womanhood are about equal to your chances of bringing a child of your own up successfully. Because it mostly depends upon you, in either case. In other words both heredity and environment are less important than a third factor, the manner in which the child is handled. Heredity, environment, and love—and the greatest of these is love!

Of course, love must not be interpreted to mean foolish indulgence and mere petting, with no firm discipline. But it is well known that many of the finest men that civilization has known have had the humblest origin, and as children known only poverty and hardship. But there was love and understanding, wise guidance and mutual helpfulness in those humble homes, else the humble boys and girls would not have risen so high. On the other hand, it is so well known that rich men's sons frequently turn out badly, that attention is always riveted upon any gilded youth who takes a job and makes good at anything more serious than polo or yachting, thus proving that cultured surroundings and the advantages of private in-

Christmas

December 25—a momentous day in the history of the world.

Christ—the only perfect man that God or the world has ever produced.

Christianity—that ennobling faith which keeps civilization alive and prepares the soul of humanity for the great beyond.

In every Christian heart that beats the day will be one of reverence and humility, in thankfulness that God in His merciful wisdom created a Son whose death should redeem the world.

In the churches, at the home firesides, on lofty mountain peaks and in the barren wastes of the deserts, on the waters of the deep and wherever mankind is, there God will be to look into our hearts and note the manner in which we observe the anniversary of His son.

No heart is so pure but what it can be made cleaner and better by concentrating the mind upon the wonderful deeds of this perfect man.

No soul is so steeped in sin but what it can be purified by repentance and belief, for Christ gave his life that such might be so.

As we observe the day, let us honor the man whose birth it commemorates and the God who created him.

But let it not end with the setting of the sun or at the stroke of twelve.

Let us carry the lessons and the impressions of the day into our future lives, into our daily affairs, and into our pleasures and our pastimes.

Let us invoke the gentle and forgiving spirit of Christ in all things we do and say, to the end that the life which was given for us may not have been in vain.

It is the least that we can do for so much that has been done for us.

struction, fine schools and travel are not vital factors in character building.

Statistics prove, rather sadly, that most inmates of penitentiaries have been as children inmates of public institutions, charitable homes, orphanages of one sort or another. It is not that the children learn crime at these institutions, but that they miss the one thing in life that tends to make boys and girls stay straight—they miss love, personal attention. They grow up feeling that nobody cares so why should they—which is, incidentally, exactly the reason why some of the children of the rich go wrong, mother being busy with bridge and father being engrossed with business.

The fact that there's so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, has been the guiding principle upon which Judge Ben Lindsey has founded his justly celebrated Juvenile Court in Denver, Colorado, which has served as a model for many other juvenile courts all over the world. Judge Lindsey realizes that every child is potentially a criminal as well as an angel child, and that it is not so much the amount of money that its family has as the amount of understanding of child nature they possess which determines whether or not the child shall have opportunity to develop its lawless instincts.

To help drive home this important message to parents and teachers, Judge Lindsey recently consented to appear in a motion picture production in Hollywood, California. The film, a William D. Taylor production entitled "The Soul of Youth," is by no means propaganda, but an honest to goodness play written by Julia Crawford Ivers, who was responsible for the screen versions of the famous Mark Twain stories, "Tom Sawyer" and "Huck Finn," a drama enacted by the same lad who made "Huck" live again on a million screens. But the humor and pathos of the story are no less real and poignant because of the court scenes in which the youthful hero first encounters the strong arm of the law. Fortunately, for the street waif, justice in Judge Ben Lindsey's court is tempered with mercy and a great knowledge of child psychology, and it is proved to everybody's satisfaction that there is honor among juvenile

thieves, once they are shown a better way.

"The Soul of Youth" comes to the Amuzu Theater Thursday, December 23.—adv.

Stewart Farm

Sold at Public Auction and Brought a Fine Price.

The magnificent farm of H. C. Stewart near East Stone Gap, which had been subdivided into four tracts, was sold at public auction by the Virginia Land Auction Company, of Roanoke, on last Wednesday and the entire tract brought about \$45,000. The sale was conducted by Mr. Starnes, manager of the Roanoke company and the parcels were cried off by Horney Brothers, the twin auctioneers, of Canton, N. C.

The purchasers of this land were: Ballard Carter, T. G. Morris, C. F. Blanton, J. M. Neely, Peter Tate and H. C. Stewart. Mr. Stewart bought the home place including eight acres of land.

This farm is one of the most productive in the county, it being in a high state of cultivation.

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

Following our usual custom during the holidays and in order to give our employees a few days rest, there will be no issue of the Post next week and the mechanical department will be closed from Friday of this week until Wednesday morning of next week and those having job printing to do will please govern themselves accordingly. The business office will be closed only on Christmas day. We wish all our customers and friends a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We hope that the year just closing has been the best year of your life and that next year will be a still better one.

Give a boy a bad name and he has small chance of living it down. Give a boy a square deal and you have small chance of being disappointed in him.—See the Soul of Youth at the Amuzu Thursday.—adv.

Auction Sale

Beautiful Home Sites Purchased on Poplar Hill at Sale Saturday.

The beautiful square on Poplar Hill, owned by the estate of the late John Fox, Jr., the author, that has long been cherished by many people as prospective home sites, and is no doubt the most desirable location in Big Stone Gap, was sold at public auction Saturday afternoon by the Virginia Land Auction Company, of Roanoke. The amount realized from the sale was \$30,142.50.

The square had been cut up into forty four lots and when placed under the hammer they were disposed of in record time. Practically every purchaser of lots at this sale bought them with the intention of constructing fine homes in the near future and it is predicted that before a great while this block will be filled with the finest residences in town. In nearly every instance the successful bidder, who was given the privilege of taking more than one lot, took as many as two, three and four at the same price.

The sale started promptly at 2 o'clock as advertised and by five o'clock this entire block together with a number of other lots in different parts of town were disposed of. The sales were cried off by Horney Brothers, of Canton, N. C., the famous twin auctioneers, who have auctioned off a number of big sales in Southwest Virginia during the past year, and in their unusual manner of crying off the same bids at the same time afforded much amusement and attraction to the crowd. During the year 1919 Horney Brothers sold over \$5,000,000 worth of property. During intermission of sales Vester Witt and his famous musicians that comprise the Norton Concert Band, made excellent music.

Mrs. Barlow, of Pennington Gap, Dr. J. A. Gilmer and Paul Chestnut tied in the contest of guessing the number of people present at the sale. The names were put in a hat and one taken out by a little child and Mrs. Barlow won and received the pony free, which she subsequently sold \$10.00. R. C. Grever, of this place, received as a prize \$5.00 for guessing the purchase price of the first lot sold.

Result of Fourth Red Cross Roll Call.

Stonoga	\$ 39.40
Dunbar	22.00
Keeokee	112.00
Roda	42.00
Arno	31.00
Imboden	7.00
Exeter	24.00
Osaka	114.00
Appalachia	137.00
East Stone Gap	55.00
*Big Stone Gap	502.35

Total \$1,085.75

*L. & N. \$46.00; V. & S. W. \$36.00

National Red Cross allotment \$499.72

Big Stone Gap Chapter allotment 381.60

Stonoga Coke and Coal Company allotment 198.13

Expense of Drive 6.30

We are glad to report that the members of our chapter have again shown their appreciation of the spirit of service as demonstrated by the Red Cross. The activities of our chapter have resolved themselves into but one feature, the public health nursing department. For the continuation of this work our allotment from the roll call is not sufficient, unless supplemented by more funds. Thanking all local directors for their efforts in the roll call. Respectfully,

Mrs. R. B. ALSOVER,
Director of 4th Red Cross Roll Call.

Roda News

Mrs. M. C. Davis has been very ill for several days.

Mrs. Colvard Jones has gone to Benhams to spend the holidays with her son.

Henry Quillin had the misfortune to fall, while fixing the electric lights in the theater Thursday night and break one of his ribs.

Rev. E. L. McConnell spent Friday in Bristol shopping for Christmas.

Mrs. H. S. Estill spent Friday in Big Stone Gap with her sister, Mrs. J. D. Rogers.

Wade Tate was called to Rogersville Friday on account of the serious illness of his wife's mother.

Our Sunday school is making a splendid record and the attendance is increasing.

John D. Williams, our splendid policeman, is looking closely for "bootleggers" here. He arrested one last Thursday who had four gallons of moonshine.

Useful Gifts Are Mostly Appreciated

Let your gift to the family this Christmas answer two purposes—for remembrance, and for use. Every woman will find in our store some article that she is greatly in need of. We are now offering our line of

Ladies' Suits, Coats and Hats

25 to 50 Per Cent. Discount

\$65.00 Ladies' Coats for	\$40.00
50.00 Ladies' Coats for	37.50
40.00 Ladies' Coats for	30.00
30.00 Ladies' Coats for	20.00

Ladies' Sweaters at Half Price
Children's Coats Almost Half Price

and there are many other thing too numerous to mention in our ready-to-wear department will sell at a price regardless of cost for CASH.

You are invited to come to our store and look over our large and varied list of articles for Christmas. Their practical use represents the substantial side of life.

Toys for the Children

D. C. Wolfe,

Big Stone Gap, - - Va.